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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

November 9, 1977

Honorable Stansfield Turner
Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Admiral Turner:

On November 3, 1977, this Committee met to discuss the most appropriate procedures to assure a thorough legislative review of covert action and sensitive intelligence collection operations. The Committee approved a set of guidelines and I am writing to inform you about them, and to ask your cooperation in helping the Committee meet its obligations in this area.

Criteria

The first guideline approved by the Committee has to do with the operations which it believes ought to be reported to the Committee. The Committee wishes to know, of course, about covert actions (as required by the Hughes-Ryan Amendment); but it also wants to be informed about sensitive intelligence collection operations which are or might be directed against American citizens, carry a high risk of political damage to the United States if exposed, are large or costly, have a high risk of exposure, or are particularly important in their objectives. The Committee would like you, as Director of the intelligence community, to require the appropriate officials to report to the Committee on sensitive intelligence collection operations which have these characteristics, and to respond to these general reporting criteria in an inclusive manner. (In addition to the many items that would naturally fall within these criteria, the Committee wants to receive detailed summaries of all intelligence agreements--written and oral--reached with other nations, including agreements falling both inside and outside the usual reporting to Congress under the Case-Zablocki Act.)

In a related set of guidelines, the Committee approved a recommendation requiring the DCI to report to me and to the Committee Staff Director, Thomas K. Latimer, within

Executive Registry
11-2-78

CLC #77-4876

HSCI
77-0039/8

Chrono

Letters were not sent
30 November briefing
took care of it.

24 hours that a Presidential finding on covert action has been made, or that a highly sensitive intelligence collection operation is scheduled to begin.

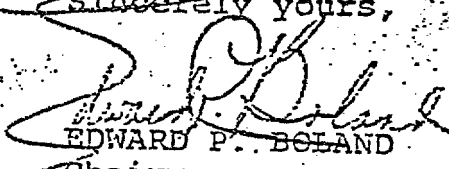
Also, to keep itself continually informed on sensitive intelligence activities, the Committee wishes to receive quarterly briefings on the status of covert actions and important collection operations. We would like the final quarterly briefing to include an annual report on these activities. Moreover, at the time of the quarterly reviews, the Committee wishes to be informed about the termination of any covert action or sensitive collection operation, and its outcome.

Lastly, the Committee would like you to visit us again as soon as possible to follow through on your introductory briefing on covert action. We would now like to be told in depth about each of the major covert actions you summarized on your October 19 visit. Without getting into the names of agents and assets, the Committee would like to know in some detail the objectives, targets, methods, source of authority and extent of policy coordination associated with each operation. At this same time, we would like you to brief us in full on CIA activities, if any, within or against Jamaica since 1952. As you know, allegations have appeared in the press regarding CIA assassination attempts against Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley; the Committee has an obligation to examine these charges.

The guidelines I have outlined here represent only a first step toward determining workable and thorough procedures for the regular review of sensitive intelligence programs. The Committee will further shape and refine its methods, in cooperation with you, as time passes. We continue to hope and trust that the intelligence community and the House of Representatives can work together in the best interests of the country to develop an effective program of legislative oversight in the intelligence field.

With every good wish, I am,

Sincerely yours,


EDWARD P. BOLAND
Chairman

cc: Honorable Zbigniew Brzezinski
Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

ER 78-8798/1

FROM

Acting Legislative Counsel

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

14 April 1978

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1. DDCI

14 APR 1978

4/17/78 fep/m

For your information--
in response to your
suggestion that we should
get into the act between
the program managers and
the House Permanent Select
Committee on Intelligence
with regard to furnishing
lists of foreign liaison
relationships to Congress.

2.

3. ~~DDCI~~

4.

OBE Return

5.

to OLC

6.

To mmp

7.

8.

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EW